

## IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

	PATRICK J. DUGGAN
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,	)
Plaintiff,	)
v.	) CIVIL ACTION NO.
THE DETROIT EDISON COMPANY, FORD MOTOR COMPANY, and GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION,	00-74212
Defendants.	) ) )

**CONSENT DECREE** 

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#### I. BACKGROUND

- A. The United States of America ("United States"), on behalf of the Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), filed a complaint in this matter pursuant to Section 107 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response,

  Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, 42 U.S.C. § 9607, as amended ("CERCLA"), seeking reimbursement of response costs incurred and to be incurred for response actions taken at or in connection with the release or threatened release of hazardous substances at the J.E. Berger Site in Detroit, Michigan ("the Site").
- B. The defendants that have entered into this Consent Decree ("Settling Defendants") do not admit any liability to Plaintiff arising out of the transactions or occurrences alleged in the complaint.
- C. The United States and Settling Defendants agree, and this Court by entering this Consent Decree finds, that this Consent Decree has been negotiated by the Parties in good faith, that settlement of this matter will avoid prolonged and complicated litigation between the Parties, and that this Consent Decree is fair, reasonable, and in the public interest.

THEREFORE, with the consent of the Parties to this Decree, it is ORDERED, ADJUDGED, AND DECREED:

#### II. JURISDICTION

1. This Court has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1345 and 42 U.S.C. §§ 9607 and 9613(b) and also has personal jurisdiction over Settling Defendants. Settling Defendants consent to and shall not challenge entry of this Consent Decree or this Court's jurisdiction to enter and enforce this Consent Decree.

#### III. PARTIES BOUND

2. This Consent Decree is binding upon the United States, and upon Settling Defendants and their successors and assigns. Any change in ownership or corporate or other legal status, including but not limited to, any transfer of assets or real or personal property, shall in no way alter the status or responsibilities of Settling Defendants under this Consent Decree.

#### IV. <u>DEFINITIONS</u>

- 3. Unless otherwise expressly provided herein, terms used in this Consent

  Decree which are defined in CERCLA or in regulations promulgated under CERCLA shall
  have the meaning assigned to them in CERCLA or in such regulations. Whenever terms
  listed below are used in this Consent Decree or in any appendix attached hereto, the
  following definitions shall apply:
- a. "CERCLA" shall mean the Comprehensive Environmental Response,
  Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, 42 U.S.C. § 9601, et seq.
- b. "Consent Decree" shall mean this Consent Decree and all appendices attached hereto. In the event of conflict between this Consent Decree and any appendix, the Consent Decree shall control.
- c. "Day" shall mean a calendar day. In computing any period of time under this Consent Decree, where the last day would fall on a Saturday, Sunday, or federal holiday, the period shall run until the close of business of the next working day.
- d. "DOJ" shall mean the United States Department of Justice and any successor departments, agencies or instrumentalities of the United States.

- e. "EPA" shall mean the United States Environmental Protection

  Agency and any successor departments, agencies or instrumentalities of the United States.
- f. "EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund" shall mean the Hazardous Substance Superfund established by the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 9507.
- g. "Interest" shall mean interest at the current rate specified for interest on investments of the Hazardous Substance Superfund established by 26 U.S.C. § 9507, compounded annually on October 1 of each year, in accordance with 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a).
- h. "Paragraph" shall mean a portion of this Consent Decree identified by an arabic numeral or an upper or lower case letter.
  - i. "Parties" shall mean the United States and the Settling Defendants.
- j. "Past Response Costs" shall mean all costs, including but not limited to direct and indirect costs, that EPA or DOJ on behalf of EPA has paid at or in connection with the Site through September 8, 2000, plus accrued Interest on all such costs through the date such payment is due pursuant to Section V, Paragraph 4.
  - k. "Plaintiff" shall mean the United States.
- l. "Section" shall mean a portion of this Consent Decree identified by a roman numeral.
- m. "Settling Defendants" shall mean the Detroit Edison Company, Ford Motor Company, and General Motors Corporation.
- n. "Site" shall mean the J.E. Berger Superfund Site, located at 5300

  Bellevue Avenue (Lot 2 of the Confred Subdivision) and 5353 Concord Street (Lot 3 of the Confred Subdivision), in Detroit, Michigan.

o. "United States" shall mean the United States of America, including all of its departments, agencies, and instrumentalities, which includes without limitation EPA, the Settling Federal Agencies, and any federal natural resources trustee.

#### V. <u>REIMBURSEMENT OF RESPONSE COSTS</u>

4. Settling Defendants' Payment of Past Response Costs to the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund. Within 30 days of entry of this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants shall pay to the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund \$600,000 in reimbursement of Past Response Costs, plus an additional sum for Interest on that amount calculated from 30 days after the date of entry of this Consent Decree by the Court through the date of payment. Payment shall be made by FedWire Electronic Funds Transfer ("EFT") to the U.S. Department of Justice account in accordance with current EFT procedures, referencing USAO File Number 2000 V00101, the EPA Region and Site Spill ID Number A537, and DOJ Case Number 90-11-3-06946. Payment shall be made in accordance with instructions provided to Settling Defendants by the Financial Litigation Unit of the U.S. Attorney's Office in the Eastern District of Michigan following lodging of the Consent Decree. Any payments received by the Department of Justice after 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time shall be credited on the next business day. Settling Defendants shall send notice to EPA and DOJ that payment has been made in accordance with Section XIII (Notices and Submissions) and to:

Financial Management Officer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency — Region 5
Mail Code MFS-10J
77 W. Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

## VI. <u>SETTLING DEFENDANTS' FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH</u> REQUIREMENTS OF CONSENT DECREE

5. <u>Interest on Late Payments</u>. In the event that any payment required of Settling Defendants by Section V (Reimbursement of Response Costs) or Section VI, Paragraph 6 (Stipulated Penalty), are not received when due, Interest shall continue to accrue on the unpaid balance through the date of payment.

#### 6. <u>Stipulated Penalty</u>.

- a. If any amounts due to be paid by Settling Defendants to EPA under this Consent Decree are not paid by the required date, Settling Defendants shall pay to EPA as a stipulated penalty, in addition to the Interest required by Paragraph 5, \$500 per violation per day that such payment is late.
- b. Stipulated penalties are due and payable within 30 days of the date of the demand for payment of the penalties by EPA. All payments to EPA under this Paragraph shall be made by certified or cashier's check made payable to "EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund" and shall be sent to:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency — Region 5 Program Accounting and Analysis Branch P.O. Box 70753 Chicago, IL 60673

All payments shall indicate that the payment is for stipulated penalties and shall reference the name and address of the party making payment, the EPA Region and Site Spill ID Number A537, USAO File Number, 2000V00101, and DOJ Case Number 90-11-3-06946. Copies of checks paid pursuant to this Paragraph, and any accompanying transmittal letters, shall be sent to EPA and DOJ as provided in Section XIII (Notices and Submissions) and to the Financial Management Officer, U.S. EPA, Region 5, Mail Code MFS-10J, 77 West Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60604.

- c. Penalties shall accrue as provided in this Paragraph regardless of whether EPA has notified Settling Defendants of the violation or made a demand for payment, but need only be paid upon demand. All penalties shall begin to accrue on the day after complete performance is due or the day a violation occurs, and shall continue to accrue through the final day of correction of the noncompliance or completion of the activity.

  Nothing herein shall prevent the simultaneous accrual of separate penalties for separate violations of this Consent Decree.
- 7. If the United States brings an action to enforce this Consent Decree and is successful, Settling Defendants shall reimburse the United States for all costs of such action, including but not limited to costs of attorney time.
- 8. Payments made under Paragraphs 5 through 7 shall be in addition to any other remedies or sanctions available to Plaintiff by virtue of Settling Defendants' failure to comply with the requirements of this Consent Decree.
- 9. The obligations of Settling Defendants to pay amounts owed the United States under this Consent Decree are joint and several. In the event of the failure of any one or more Settling Defendants to make the payments required under this Consent Decree, the remaining Settling Defendants shall be responsible for such payments.

10. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section, the United States may, in its unreviewable discretion, waive payment of any portion of the stipulated penalties that have accrued pursuant to this Consent Decree.

#### VII. <u>COVENANTS BY PLAINTIFF</u>

- Paragraph 12 (Reservation of Rights by United States), the United States covenants not to sue Settling Defendants pursuant to Section 107(a) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a), to recover Past Response Costs. This covenant not to sue shall take effect upon receipt by EPA of all payments required by Section V, Paragraph 4 (Settling Defendants' Payment of Past Response Costs to the EPA Hazardous Substance Superfund) and Section VI, Paragraphs 5 (Interest on Late Payments) and 6(a) (Stipulated Penalty for Late Payment). This covenant not to sue is conditioned upon the satisfactory performance by Settling Defendants of their obligations under this Consent Decree. This covenant not to sue extends only to Settling Defendants and does not extend to any other person.
- 12. Reservation of Rights by United States. The covenants set forth in Paragraph
  11 do not pertain to any matters other than those expressly specified therein. The United
  States reserves, and this Consent Decree is without prejudice to, all rights against Settling
  Defendants with respect to all other matters, including but not limited to:
- a. liability for failure by Settling Defendants to meet a requirement of this Consent Decree;
- b. liability for damages for injury to, destruction of, or loss of natural resources, and for the costs of any natural resource damage assessments;

- c. liability for injunctive relief or administrative order enforcement under Section 106 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9606;
- d. liability for costs incurred or to be incurred by the United States that are not within the definition of Past Response Costs; and
  - e. criminal liability.

#### VIII. COVENANTS BY SETTLING DEFENDANTS

- 13. <u>Covenants By Settling Defendants</u>. Settling Defendants covenant not to sue and agree not to assert any claims or causes of action against the United States or its contractors or employees, with respect to Past Response Costs or this Consent Decree, including but not limited to:
- a. any direct or indirect claim for reimbursement from the Hazardous Substance Superfund based on Sections 106(b)(2), 107, 111, 112, or 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9606(b)(2), 9607, 9611, 9612, or 9613, or any other provision of law;
- b. any claim arising out of response actions at the Site for which the Past Response Costs were incurred; and
- c. any claim against the United States pursuant to Sections 107 and 113 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9607 and 9613, relating to Past Response Costs.
- 14. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be deemed to constitute approval or preauthorization of a claim within the meaning of Section 111 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9611, or 40 C.F.R. 300.700(d).

#### IX. EFFECT OF SETTLEMENT/CONTRIBUTION PROTECTION

- 15. Nothing in this Consent Decree shall be construed to create any rights in, or grant any cause of action to, any person not a Party to this Consent Decree. Each of the Parties expressly reserves any and all rights (including, but not limited to, any right to contribution), defenses, claims, demands, and causes of action which each Party may have with respect to any matter, transaction, or occurrence relating in any way to the Site against any person not a Party hereto.
- 16. The Parties agree, and by entering this Consent Decree this Court finds, that Settling Defendants are entitled, as of the effective date of this Consent Decree, to protection from contribution actions or claims as provided by Section 113(f)(2) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9613(f)(2), for "matters addressed" in this Consent Decree. The "matters addressed" in this Consent Decree are Past Response Costs.
- 17. Each Settling Defendant agrees that, with respect to any suit or claim for contribution brought by it for matters related to this Consent Decree, it will notify EPA and DOJ in writing no later than 30 days prior to the initiation of such suit or claim. Each Settling Defendant also agrees that, with respect to any suit or claim for contribution brought against it for matters related to this Consent Decree, it will notify EPA and DOJ in writing within 30 days of service of the complaint or claim upon it. In addition, each Settling Defendant shall notify EPA and DOJ within 30 days of service or receipt of any Motion for Summary Judgment, and within 30 days of receipt of any order from a court setting a case for trial, for matters related to this Consent Decree.
  - 18. In any subsequent administrative or judicial proceeding initiated by the

United States for injunctive relief, recovery of response costs, or other relief relating to the Site, Settling Defendants shall not assert, and may not maintain, any defense or claim based upon the principles of waiver, res judicata, collateral estoppel, issue preclusion, claimsplitting, or other defenses based upon any contention that the claims raised by the United States in the subsequent proceeding were or should have been brought in the instant case; provided, however, that nothing in this Paragraph affects the enforceability of the Covenants by Plaintiff set forth in Section VII.

#### X. RETENTION OF RECORDS

- 19. Until six years after the entry of this Consent Decree, each Settling Defendant shall preserve and retain all records and documents now in its possession or control, or which come into its possession or control, that relate in any manner to response actions taken at the Site or the liability of any person for response actions conducted and to be conducted at the Site, regardless of any corporate retention policy to the contrary.
- 20. After the conclusion of the document retention period in the preceding paragraph, Settling Defendants shall notify EPA and DOJ at least 90 days prior to the destruction of any such records or documents, and, upon request by EPA or DOJ, Settling Defendants shall deliver any such records or documents to EPA. Settling Defendants may assert that certain documents, records, or other information are privileged under the attorney-client privilege or any other privilege recognized by federal law. If Settling Defendants assert such a privilege, they shall provide Plaintiff with the following: 1) the title of the document, record, or information; 2) the date of the document, record, or information; 3) the name and title of the author of the document, record, or information; 4) the name and title of

each addressee and recipient; 5) a description of the subject of the document, record, or information; and 6) the privilege asserted. However, no documents, reports, or other information created or generated pursuant to the requirements of this or any other consent decree with the United States shall be withheld on the grounds that they are privileged. If a claim of privilege applies only to a portion of a document, the document shall be provided to Plaintiff in redacted form to mask the privileged information only. Settling Defendants shall retain all records and documents that they claim to be privileged until the United States has had a reasonable opportunity to dispute the privilege claim and any such dispute has been resolved in the Settling Defendants' favor.

- 21. By signing this Consent Decree, each Settling Defendant certifies individually that, to the best of its knowledge and belief, it has:
- a. conducted a thorough, comprehensive, good faith search for documents, and has fully and accurately disclosed to EPA, all information currently in its possession, or in the possession of its officers, directors, employees, contractors or agents, which relates in any way to the ownership, operation or control of the Site, or to the ownership, possession, generation, treatment, transportation, storage or disposal of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant at or in connection with the Site;
- b. not altered, mutilated, discarded, destroyed or otherwise disposed of any records, documents or other information relating to its potential liability regarding the Site, after notification of potential liability or the filing of a suit against the Settling Defendant regarding the Site; and
  - c. fully complied with any and all EPA requests for information

regarding the Site pursuant to Sections 104(e) and 122(e) of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9604(e) and 9622(e).

#### XI. <u>NOTICES AND SUBMISSIONS</u>

22. Whenever, under the terms of this Consent Decree, notice is required to be given or a document is required to be sent by one party to another, it shall be directed to the individuals at the addresses specified below, unless those individuals or their successors give notice of a change to the other Parties in writing. Written notice as specified herein shall constitute complete satisfaction of any written notice requirement of the Consent Decree with respect to the United States, EPA, DOJ, and Settling Defendants, respectively.

#### As to the United States:

#### As to DOJ:

Chief, Environmental Enforcement Section Environment and Natural Resources Division U.S. Department of Justice (DJ # 90-11-3-06946) P.O. Box 7611 Washington, D.C. 20044-7611

#### As to EPA:

Maria E. Gonzalez
Office of Regional Counsel
Mail Code C-14J
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency -- Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

Sally Jansen
Environmental Protection Specialist
Mail Code SE-5J
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency -- Region 5
77 West Jackson Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60604

#### As to Settling Defendants:

Thomas P. Beagen Legal Department The Detroit Edison Company 2000 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Detroit, MI 48226-1279

Linda L. Bentley General Motors Corporation 300 Renaissance Center Mail Code 482-C24-D24 Detroit, MI 48265

Elaine Mills
Ford Motor Company
Three Parklane Blvd.
Suite 1500
Dearborn MI 48216

#### XII. RETENTION OF JURISDICTION

23. This Court shall retain jurisdiction over this matter for the purpose of interpreting and enforcing the terms of this Consent Decree.

#### XIII. <u>INTEGRATION</u>

24. This Consent Decree constitutes the final, complete and exclusive agreement and understanding among the Parties with respect to the settlement embodied in this Consent Decree. The Parties acknowledge that there are no representations, agreements or understandings relating to the settlement other than those expressly contained in this Consent Decree.

#### XIV. LODGING AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

- 25. This Consent Decree shall be lodged with the Court for a period of not less than 30 days for public notice and comment. The United States reserves the right to withdraw or withhold its consent if the comments regarding the Consent Decree disclose facts or considerations which indicate that this Consent Decree is inappropriate, improper, or inadequate. Settling Defendants consent to the entry of this Consent Decree without further notice.
- 26. If for any reason this Court should decline to approve this Consent Decree in the form presented, this agreement is voidable at the sole discretion of any party and the terms of the agreement may not be used as evidence in any litigation between the Parties.

#### XV. EFFECTIVE DATE

27. The effective date of this Consent Decree shall be the date upon which it is entered by the Court.

#### XVI. SIGNATORIES/SERVICE

- 28. Each undersigned representative of a Settling Defendant to this Consent

  Decree and the undersigned Section Chief or Deputy Section Chief of the Environmental

  Enforcement Section of the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the United

  States Department of Justice certifies that he or she is authorized to enter into the terms and conditions of this Consent Decree and to execute and bind legally such Party to this document.
- 29. Each Settling Defendant hereby agrees not to oppose entry of this Consent

  Decree by this Court or to challenge any provision of this Consent Decree, unless the United

States has notified Settling Defendants in writing that it no longer supports entry of the Consent Decree.

30. Each Settling Defendant shall identify, on the attached signature page, the name and address of an agent who is authorized to accept service of process by mail on behalf of that Party with respect to all matters arising under or relating to this Consent Decree. With regard to all matters arising under or relating to this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants hereby agree to accept service in that manner and to waive the formal service requirements set forth in Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and any applicable local rules of this Court, including but not limited to, service of a summons.

#### XVII. FINAL JUDGMENT

31. Upon approval and entry of this Consent Decree by the Court, this Consent.

Decree shall constitute a final judgment between and among the United States and the

Settling Defendants. The Court finds that there is no just reason for delay and therefore
enters this judgment as a final judgment under Fed. R. Civ. P. 54.

SO ORDERED THIS	_ DAY OF
	United States District Judge

THE UNDERSIGNED PARTIES enter into this Consent Decree in the matter of United States v. The Detroit Edison Company, et al., Civil Action No. , relating to the J.E. Berger Superfund Site. FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA re A Lic Date:  $\frac{10/30/60}{}$ **BRUCE S. GELBER** Section Chief **Environmental Enforcement Section** Environment and Natural Resources Division U.S. Department of Justice Washington, D.C. 20530 At v. 1) al Date: ///1/00 ROBERT W. DARNELL Trial Attorney **Environmental Enforcement Section** Environment and Natural Resources Division U.S. Department of Justice P.O. Box 7611 Washington, DC 20044 - SAUL A. GREEN United States Attorney Eastern District of Michigan Date: 1/3)00 PETER CAPLAN Assistant United States Attorney 211 West Fort Street **Suite 2001** 

Detroit, MI 48226-3211

(313) 226-9784

THE UNDERSIGNED PARTIES enter into this Consent Decree in the matter of <u>United States v. The Detroit Edison Company, et al.</u>, Civil Action No.\_\_\_\_\_, relating to the J.E. Berger Superfund Site.

FOR THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

WILLIAM E. MUNO

Director, Superfund Division

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Region V

77 West Jackson Blvd.

Chicago, IL 60604

MARIA E. GONZALEZ

Associate Regional Counsel

U.S. Environmental Protection

Agency-Region V

77 West Jackson Blvd.

Chicago, IL 60604

·	Y enters into this Consent Decree in the rompany, et al., Civil Action No		
	FOR DEFENDANT THE DETROIT ED	ISON COMPANY	
Date:	Names and address of De Robert J. Buckler President and C.O.O.	efendant's signatories] , DTE Energy Distribution	
Agent Authorized to Accept Service on Behalf of Above-signed Party:			
Name: Thomas P. Beagen			
Title:	Senior Counsel		
Address:	2000 Second Avenue		
Address:	Room 688 WCB		

Detroit, Michigan 48226

THE UNDERSIGNED PARTY enters into this Consent Decree in the matter of <u>United States v. The Detroit Edison Company</u>, et al., Civil Action No.\_\_\_\_\_\_, relating to the J.E. Berger Superfund Site.

FOR-DEFENDANT GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION

Date: 10/30/2000 | Non A. Schiemann
[Names and address of Defendant's signatories]

Agent Authorized to Accept Service on Behalf of Above-signed Party:

Name:	General Motors Corporation
Title:	Service of Process
Address:	New Center One Building, 3031 W. Grand Blvd
	Detroit, MI 48202 MC 482-207-722

ATTOPIET STATES
ATTOPIET S OFFICE
EASTERN INICHIGAN

2001 JAN 17 A 11: 40

# IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN

<u>-</u>	PATRICK J. DUGGAN
TED STATES OF AMERICA,	
Plaintiff,	00-74844
v. )	CIVIL ACTION NO.
E DETROIT EDISON COMPANY, ) RD MOTOR COMPANY, and ) NERAL MOTORS CORPORATION, )	À TOTAL CONTRACTOR CON
) Defendants. )	A TRUE COPY CLERK, U.S. DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MICHIGAN
	BY DEPUTY CLERK
Defendants. )	CLERK, U.S. DIS EASTERN DISTRIC

CONSENT DECREE

90-11-3 US DIST COURT C NAST DIST. MIC AIC NAST DIST. MIC AIC

1202 1201 States has notified Settling Defendants in writing that it no longer supports entry of the Consent Decree.

30. Each Settling Defendant shall identify, on the attached signature page, the name and address of an agent who is authorized to accept service of process by mail on behalf of that Party with respect to all matters arising under or relating to this Consent Decree. With regard to all matters arising under or relating to this Consent Decree, Settling Defendants hereby agree to accept service in that manner and to waive the formal service requirements set forth in Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure and any applicable local rules of this Court, including but not limited to, service of a summons.

#### XVII. FINAL JUDGMENT

31. Upon approval and entry of this Consent Decree by the Court, this Consent Decree shall constitute a final judgment between and among the United States and the Settling Defendants. The Court finds that there is no just reason for delay and therefore enters this judgment as a final judgment under Fed. R. Civ. P. 54.

SO ORDERED THIS DAY OF	JAN 1 6 2001
	PATRICK DUGGĄN
United States District Judge	

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